The Southern PATRIOT

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Henry A. Wallace Calls For A Free And Equal South

Henry A. Wallace has completed a tour of eight cities in four Southern States under the sponsorship of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

The same large and enthusiastic crowds that greeted Wallace in other parts of the country, turned out to hear him in Louisiana, Georgia, Virginia and Kentucky.

This Southern tour was historic and significant in many ways.

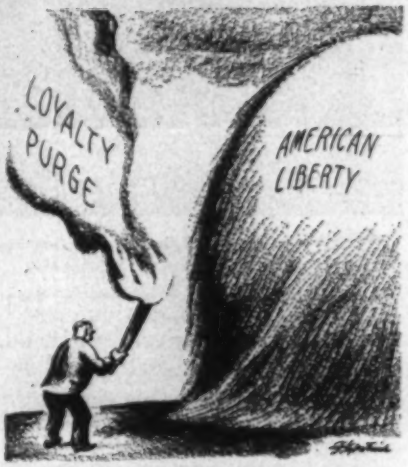
It demonstrated that thousands of Southerners welcome the opportunity to attend un-segregated meetings where they can forget temporarily the superficial differences that have been used for so long to divide and exploit us, and to think and act first of all as American citizens facing common and pressing human problems.

It was a new and refreshing experience, to hear a former Vice-President of the United States say calmly and matter-of-factly some very simple things, so rarely said by a person of national reputation here in the deep South—that this Nation should have a single standard, that we should insist on the practice of democracy at home as well as abroad, that segregation should be abolished, that immediate support should be given to the recommendations made by the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

American Liberty In Danger

Here are some of the highlights of Mr. Wallace's speech at New Orleans.

Our country is in danger today, because the most basic of American liberties are being trampled under foot. Scores of Americans who have refused to be intimidated by the Un-American Committee are facing prison for their courage. Other Americans because of their beliefs, are being tried and convicted on technicalities. Writers are being gagged, censorship is threatened, and two and one-half million American government employees are being deprived by decree of their inalienable



Wrong Way To Find A Needle In A Haystack
—Fitzpatrick in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch

rights as citizens. Minority opinions are being treated as treason.

"A Cloud of Fear Shadows the Land"

This assault on American freedom comes not from any foreign foe, but from Americans.

It should be obvious, I think, that we cannot save liberty by attacking it—that we cannot save freedom by illegally limiting it.

A cloud of fear shadows the land. With the cry of "Red, Red—Communist, Communist," our most precious freedoms are being undermined.

It is said by some, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights must give way to the fight against the Communists for they are called enemy agents. Now I don't know much about the Communists. But I do know that the cry of "enemy agents" is the oldest smear in American politics. Jefferson was called an enemy agent. Thousands of his followers were said to be the paid representatives of revolutionary France. Every reactionary newspaper of that day thundered that the Jeffersonians had been bought and paid for by French revolutionary gold.

It (red-baiting) is used by men whose great fear is democracy, not Communism.

Universal Military Training

Military strength can't impose good ideas nor can it sustain bad ones. In the belief that it can work we have appropriated 25 billion dollars for armaments in two years time.

In this 20th Christian century the United States is spending 25 million dollars every day for armaments, while all the members of the United Nations together are spending only 27 million dollars a year to build the United Nations.

Militarism is essentially nationalistic. It is perverted nationalism.—It is nationalism built on the common fears of people, rather than on man's common hopes. It is such nationalism which threatens us today. The heart of our military's policies can be found in the proposal for Universal Military Training. —I warn you—that you will either start fighting this proposal now—with all the resources at your command—or see the military begin its domination of American youth before next summer has passed.

Military & Wall Street In Control

They (Military and Wall Street men) killed price and rationing controls; they legislated to weaken trade unions; they have consistently opposed every constructive proposal for housing, education, health, social security and resources development. **Before the war almost 50% of our national budget was used for such constructive purposes. Today the figure is 10%.** At a time when our veterans lack homes and adequate subsistence to stay in school, our dominant policy makers propose spending 2 billion dollars a year to train their younger brothers in the art of war.

The forces which killed wartime subsidies of 2 billion dollars—subsidies which helped to keep food prices down, somehow do not find military expenditures extravagant. Since they killed the extravagance of subsidies it has cost

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the American consumer 10 billion dollars to eat less—an average of $5 per week for each family.

Let's remember that the Communists do not cause the problems for which they offer radical solution. They didn't remove controls and cause inflation. They didn't pass the Taft-Hartley bill. They haven't kept segregation of the races in our states. The Communists aren't responsible for the poll tax.

There are only two ways to avoid accepting Communism as the solution to economic and social problems. One way is to meet such problems squarely and solve them within our present framework, that is, to prove that **we can** produce abundantly and distribute fairly. The other way is to build fear of Communism; suppress civil liberties in the name of fighting "Communism", and arm ourselves to the teeth, while we give our greater powers to military men and monopolists. We are being forced to accept the second method. In the long run, it won't work! It means eventual depression and war! It is embryonic fascism!

Huey Long once said that fascism would come to this country cloaked in the language of democracy. Huey Long's prediction is coming true. We must stand strong against it.

South Carolina and Foreign Policy

The language of freedom and justice and democracy is used in soliciting our support for the present foreign policy, but those who use the language don't really mean it. Have you heard Hoover, Vandenberg, Marshall, Dulles and the others call for breaking relations with South Carolina, because that state does not have free elections? Have you heard these champions of freedom and justice abroad call for an end to undemocratic practices here at home? Their concern with these principles seems to be limited to countries where the profits and possibilities for profit of American corporate interests are being curtailed.

We hear talk about the rights of the individual—and from the same people we hear that a little unemployment is a good thing. Plans for maintaining **full employment** and **full production** are opposed as infringements of "free enterprise". **The right to work** without joining fellow workers in supporting a **trade union** is vigorously defended; but defense of "the right to a job" is called evidence of "Communism". This double-talk confuses a lot of people here at home. It is carried on by skillful propagandists who are leading us down the road to fascism in the name of democracy.

Mr. Wallace steps forward to start his address at Colonial Hall, New Orleans.

It is time to clean house. It is true that Roosevelt had Wall Street men and military men working in government positions, where they could use their skills, but—under Roosevelt, he ran the Wall Street men—they didn't run him.

We must do the same kind of constructive planning in our own economy that we asked the nations of Europe to undertake.

We must demand and get radical reductions in armaments programs.

We must control private interests abroad, so that oil and mining companies do not involve us in new wars.

We must unite to fight universal military training.

Above all, we must take immediate positive action to take up the slack between our principles and practices here at home.

Civil Rights Report Supported

A very good summary of that slack—the great gap between our proclamations and our actions—can be found in the recent report of the President's special committee on civil rights.

I don't want that report to be pigeonholed.

If the democratic peoples of the world see the forces of reaction kill legislation to abolish the poll tax, to prevent discrimination in employment, to use the powers of the federal government to prevent segregation and discrimination, they will have no confidence left in the United States. The colored peoples of the world—and they are a vast majority—will not be able to reconcile our use of the language of freedom in the halls of the United Nations with the actions of the Congress in defeating these proposals.

They must not be defeated.

The South Can Lead

It is time for the liberal Southern Democrats to break sharply with the Republicans in Democratic clothing, who have dominated your political life for far too long. The church, educational, and labor leaders of the South can do more for peace by carrying the fight for democratic principles in their own back yards, than all the statesmen and generals in the entire world.

I have said for many years that the South offers a greater hope for a successful progressive movement than any other section of the United States. In no section is there such a disparity between the wealthy few and the poverty-stricken poor. Courageous men and women in the South, white and Negro, can and must build an alliance which will restore and improve the democratic machinery of our states. The time is now.

Organize! Defend the rights of others in the interest of your own! Strike back at reaction! Have courage! We must have peace. We can have peace. We shall have peace.

BOOKS IN BRIEF

One Thousand Americans the Real Rulers of the U. S. A., by George Seldes, Boni & Gaer, N. Y., $4.00.

During the war Franklin Delano Roosevelt wrote: "The liberty of a democracy is not safe if the people tolerate the growth of private power to a point where it becomes stronger than their democratic state itself. That, in its essence, is fascism—ownership of government by an individual, by a group, or by any other controlling power.

"Among us today a concentration of private power without equal in history is growing."

Along side this statement place the report of the Senate's Monopoly Investigation Committee that the 200 largest non-financial corporations control the economy of the United States.

Mr. Seldes, the editor of that courageous and sprightly weekly, In Fact, and one of the most experienced and able journalists and authors in the United States discusses this growth of monopoly—the real danger to free enterprise—naming persons, groups, dates and events.

His book is divided into four parts Big Powers, Big Magazines, Big Business and Big Reaction.

This is an invaluable book for everyone who would understand what makes the wheels of industry and government go around—slow down, or stop.

The South Old and New (A History 1820-1947), by Francis Butler Simkins. Knopf, N. Y., $6.00.

A good compilation of valuable data that fails, however, to give a fair picture of the progressive forces at work in the South today. "White supremacy" is not as firmly entrenched as the book indicates. The evidence is rather impressive in recent years showing that even politicians cannot now be elected on that platform, witness the election of Judge Stinnes in Mississippi and Jim Folsom in Alabama. The author plays down the element of native protest always present in the South, and shows little appreciation of the native, leadership responsible for the growth of organized labor in the South nor the courageous and able Negroes who have led their peoples in the struggle for suffrage and civic rights.

From Slavery to Freedom, A History of American Negroes, by John Hope Franklin, Knopf, N. Y., $3.75.

The Negro race had built proud empires in other lands centuries before they became involuntary but important participants in the development of these United States. Dr. Franklin tells both stories in a book that we commend to our readers, especially the chapters dealing with the period from 1865 to 1900. Few Southerners have read the history of this period of their native land as written by a member of the Negro race. The author writes with the careful restraint of a Harvard trained scholar but with considerable literary skill. It is a fascinating book.

Negro Year Book, A Review of Events Affecting Negro Life 1941-1946. Jessie Parkhurst Guzman, Editor. The Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., $4.50.

A useful reference book for educational agencies and individuals. Whatever your special interest may be, politics, religion, art, education, unions, civil rights business—you will find a wealth of factual material concerning the subject in this book. It deals with events affecting Negro life in the United States Africa, South America and Europe.

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We Salute

We salute Mayor William Hartsfield of Atlanta, Ga., for his statement opposing segregation before the Freedom Train. Citizens of Memphis and Birmingham were deprived of seeing the train because city officials insisted on segregation. Mayor Hartsfield, in a statement in the true American tradition of the documents displayed on the train, stated:

"The exhibits on the Freedom Train are those priceless documents guaranteeing the basic freedom of the American people. I do not see how anybody can draw a color line through freedom and justice.

"So far as I am concerned, I am willing to stand beside any American citizen, regardless of race or creed, in mutual admiration and respect for those great historical charters of American freedom."

Freedom Train Derailed At Birmingham

The proposed "Birmingham" Plan calling for separate racial lines and for viewing the train in alternate racial groups was opposed by the NAACP, Mr. Emory O. Jackson, Executive Secretary, and by the Baptist Ministers Conference. Their statement said the "Birmingham Plan" "would be a blight on the documents which the train carries."

The Birmingham Age-Herald commented:

"Possibly the worst error in the series of mistakes made in handling the situation was in misjudging the temper of the people who live in Birmingham. Have these gentlemen on the city commission never stood in line in a crowded bank lobby shortly before noon of a Saturday morning? Have they never seen a long line of Negroes and whites standing in the courthouse waiting to buy automobile licenses? Have they never ridden in a crowded elevator in a department store while doing their pre-Christmas shopping?"

* * *

"Freedom Train" On Records

"I hope there ain't no Jim Crow
on the Freedom Train,
No back door entrance to the
Freedom Train,
No signs FOR COLORED
on the Freedom Train,
No WHITE FOLKS ONLY
on the Freedom Train."

Langston Hughes' stirring poem, "Freedom Train" has been made into a record by Paul Robeson especially for the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. Records cost $1.00 each plus postage and may be had from SCHW, 808 Perdido St., New Orleans 12, La.

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JAMES A. DOMBROWSKI
Editor

Miss Virginia Gilloon

Winners In "Americanism" Contest Announced

Miss Virginia Gilloon, teacher of social science, San Diego High School, California, was awarded first prize of one hundred dollars in the nation-wide "What Is Americanism" contest conducted by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

Second prize of fifty dollars was won by Miss Loretto M. Burke of New Orleans, La.; and third prize of twenty-five dollars went to Mrs. John W. Thompson of Natchez, Miss.

Contest judges were Professor Howard Mumford Jones of Harvard University, formerly of the University of North Carolina; Dr. Marshall Sheppard Recorder of Deeds, Washington, D. C., and Attorney Robert Kenny, President of the National Lawyers Guild.

Entries were received from 34 states and several ships at sea. In some cities the contest stimulated spirited letters to the editor.

A touch of comic relief crept into the New Orleans press where debate raged for days over one citizen's statement that Americans must have at least eight generations of legitimately married American ancestors.

But it was obvious from the hundreds of letters received that many average Americans are thinking seriously about the real meaning of words like Americanism and democracy and are not in agreement with the democracy-hating standards set up by the Rankins and the un-American committee.

Americanism Is---A Hope, A Promise, A Dream---That Can Be Fulfilled

"Americanism is still a hope. It is the hope of a nation where men and women are judged not by their race or their nationality or their religion, but by their worth as neighbors. It is the promise of a land, rich in the fruits of the earth, where none willing to work need fear want. It is the dream of a society in which citizens may try new social and political paths free from inquisitions. Americanism is a hope which can be fulfilled."

Miss Virginia Gilloon, San Diego, California (First Prize)

---Americanism Is A Way Of Living

"Americanism is a way of living! —the chief principles being: the ideals and procedure of democracy.

"It is respect for the dignity and worth of all, with opportunity for economic and social security.

"It is the search for truth; with free discussion, freedom of speech, freedom of press and freedom of religion.

"It is justice for the common man; the rights of the minority, the rule of the majority, and the honest ballot.

"It is universal education, with the responsibility to participate in the duties of democracy, so that one may enjoy 'life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness'."

Miss Lorretto M. Burke, New Orleans, Louisiana (Second Prize)

---Americanism Is Faith In All People

"Americanism is the firm faith that ability can come from any person irrespective of his color or social standing. It proclaims the Divine Right of every man and woman to develop in his own way and condemns discrimination against anyone for any reason that it is beyond his own control.

"Questions of precedents or tradition are not allowed to hamper progress, and impossibilities are challenges, not barriers.

"Campaigns of hatred against religious groups, even self-righteously camouflaged, are un-American, and violate men's brotherhood established in the first two words of the Lord's Prayer.

"Americanism is trust in God and Man!"

Mrs. John W. Thompson, Natchez, Mississippi, (Third Prize)

WINNERS OF HONORABLE MENTION

The twenty-five honorable mention winners:

Mathew M. Winston, 1921 N. Roman Street, New Orleans, La.; **Lee F. Rodgers**, The Portsmouth Star, Portsmouth, Virginia;**Mildred Ward**, 1209 W. 61st Terrace, Cambridge, Mass.; **Mrs. L. M. Logan**, 139 S. Street NW., Washington, D. C.; **Lillian Muniz**, 2717 Wisteria Ave., New Orleans, La.; **Bernard J. Metcalf**, 10806 Glenroy Ave., Chicago 43, Ill.; **Samuel A. Haynes**, 1334 Druid Hill Ave., Baltimore, Md.; **Fay Kessinger**, Route 1, Roachdale, Ind.; **Finetta B. Stagg** 1410 Glenmore Ave., Baton Rouge, La.; **Mrs. Hazel Crownover**, 1208 W. Cawson St., Hopewell, Va.; **Mrs. C. Z. Fine**, R.F.D. No. 3 Coleman Texas; **Patrick J. Doyle**, Signal Mountain, Tenn.; **Beth Bower**, 33 McLean Ave., Staten Island, N. Y. **Lorraine Sargent**, Butler, Mo.; **Marion A. Oliver**, 64 Grove Street, Meriden, Conn.; **Mrs. Anna Herbert**, 4144 N. Sheridan, Chicago, Ill.; **Harriet C. Brown**, 122 Polk Ave., New Orleans, La.; **Allison Smith**, P.O. Box 4265, San Francisco, Calif.; **Arvo Van Alstyne**, 70 Central Ave., Apt. 78, New Haven 11 Conn.; **Rabbi Norman H. Dismond**, 1920 S. Ashland Ave., Chicago 8, Ill.; **Judith Esther Toubes**, 853 Highland Drive Chicago Heights, Ill.; **Mrs. Edward E. Gould**, 2017 S. Rendon, New Orleans, La.; **C. L. Glasgow** 1107 East 51st St., Route 1, Austin, Tex.; **Mrs. J. C. Atchley**, 3221 Banks St., New Orleans, La.

Segregation In Education

The special "Segregation In Education" issue of the Southern Patriot is now in its third edition. Forty thousand copies have been printed. Here are the facts in pictures and charts describing the most glaring contradiction in American democracy. Order your copies now: 15c each; $10 per 100; $50 per 1,000, from The Southern Patriot, 808 Perdido Street, New Orleans 12, La.